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**ROANOKE**  
TO GROW,  
As for an Old Dead  
Town to decay.

# THE ROANOKE TIMES.

THE PEOPLE OF  
**ROANOKE**  
Have abiding faith in  
their city, and work for  
its upbuilding with the  
splendid energy that  
brings  
**SUCCESS.**

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**A SATISFACTORY TRIP.**  
The Roanoke Committee Presents Strong Argument Against the Kent Bill.  
Some of the committee, composed of Messrs. Buckner, Trout, Pochin, Col. Lewis, E. H. Stewart and Engleby, sent by the Commercial Association and the City Council to Richmond to memorialize the legislature against the passage of the Kent railroad bill, have returned. Several of the gentlemen, in a talk with a representative of The Times, expressed themselves as much encouraged with the outlook.  
They were well received by the committee, who said that the argument sent up from Roanoke in opposition to the Kent bill was the best that has yet been presented. The committee enjoyed the trip hugely and are loud in their praise of Richmond's hospitality as well as that of the legislators. They are hopeful that the bill will not pass and that the railroad interest of this section, which have done so much towards building the city, will not be hampered and handicapped by the establishment of a railroad commission.  
All the committee returned yesterday except Mr. E. H. Stewart, who went to Winston, N. C.; Colonel Lewis, who went to Norfolk, and Mr. Engleby, who went to New York.

**Loafers Sent to Jail.**  
Mayor Evans is determined to put a stop to having the colored women on Railroad avenue loiter on the street after dark. Hattie Allen and Callie Stewart were before him yesterday morning for this offense and he fined them \$5 each, in default of which they were sent to jail, but Callie was afterwards released.

**The Machinists' Ball.**  
A ball was given by the machinists last night at St. Andrews' Hall. Music was furnished by the Machine Works Orchestra and a large crowd were present. The dancing was kept up until quite a late hour.

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## WOMEN HANGED FOR MURDER.

**Four Souls Jerked Into Eternity Yesterday.**

James Lyles and Margaret Lashley, colored, hanged at Danville for the murder of Margaret's husband—A Woman in North Carolina Pays the Death Penalty for Infanticide—A Hanging in Georgia.

DANVILLE, Va., Jan. 22.—[Special]—Jim Lyles and Margaret Lashley, colored, were hanged here to-day for the murder of George Lashley, the woman's husband, in October, 1890. Both slept peacefully last night and did not awake until daylight. They ate a hearty breakfast and Lyles smoked a cigar, which he seemed to enjoy.

At 11 o'clock they were led to the scaffold and after prayer by colored preachers, and songs in which the condemned joined, the drop fell promptly at 11:32.

Lyles confessed and declared that he alone was responsible for the crime. The woman has always protested her innocence and died declaring that she had no hand in the murder of her husband. The execution was private and was witnessed by about twenty-five persons.

**STORY OF THE CRIME.**  
The crime for which Jim Lyles and Margaret Lashley paid the death penalty was the murder of George Lashley, the woman's husband, in North Danville, in October, 1890. Lyles had been attentive to the woman and took her to a party on the Saturday night the crime was committed. It was alleged by the State that a plot was made while the two were returning to Lashley's home. When they reached there in company with another man and women, Margaret went into the house while Lyles waited outside. In a few minutes Lashley was allured to the yard by his wife, when he was shot down by Lyles.

**LYLES' CONFESSION.**  
Lyles made the following confession Wednesday:  
"Realizing that I have but a few hours to spend on earth, I hereby desire to record a full confession of the crime committed by me in November, 1890. Margaret and myself had attended a party the night I killed George Lashley and we returned home together. We separated at the front gate and Margaret went into the house. Myself and one Charlie Watson then started away, but Watson said to me, 'Let's go back and hear what Mag and George have to say.' I refused at first, but finally consented, and he went up to the window and soon ran back to where I was and said, 'Some one is coming out.' In a few minutes I saw George coming out and towards me.

"He had previously threatened to kill me if he caught me near his house, and, thinking he would do as he said he would, I fired at him. The first shot missed, and I fired the second time. The bullet struck him in the side and he died in a few minutes. During my trial it was proved that a plot had been made between Mag and myself and that she led him out of the house by the hand for that purpose. All of this I absolutely deny, as God hears me and as I realize that there is no help on earth for me and that I must now prepare to meet my God.

"I absolutely exonerate Margaret Lashley from all blame. She and I had lived in sin, but she did not know that I was going to kill her husband, nor did she know that I was near her house that night. We made no plot together. As I hope for mercy and forgiveness, I now speak the truth, so help me God."

## THE MABRY BENEFIT.

**About \$275 For the Widow of the Murdered Officer.**

The benefit for the relief of Mrs. Mabry occurred at the Opera House last night and was witnessed by almost 150 people. This number does not represent the number of tickets sold, as the policemen have not yet made their returns. It is estimated that the officers have sold at least 125 tickets, which will bring the grand total up to about \$275, which will be given to the widow of the late officer.

The entertainment was a very successful one, and everything passed off without a hitch. Professor Kelly, of Philadelphia, acted as referee, and Professor Turner presided at the piano. The Roanoke Machine Works Band gave a concert in front of the house before the show, and also rendered some music in the house. The band played with its usual spirit, and the excellent music was greatly enjoyed by all.

The programme consisted of boxing, wrestling and an exhibition of roller skating by John J. Christian, the champion colored skater of the world. His performance was an excellent one and received deserved applause. The boxing contests were all spirited, especially that of Prof. Layton and Murphy for the wind up.

The wrestling match between Professor Layton and Professor Mann was announced to be the best two in three falls.

The first bout was a very spirited one, and after much hard work the fall was given to Layton. Professor Mann was dissatisfied with this decision, and the other two bouts will be wrestled to-night at the club's gymnasium.

Taken altogether, the benefit was a very successful one, and much credit is due Messrs. Brennan and Layton for the manner in which it passed off.

## WATCHING SUSPICIOUS CHARACTERS

**Three Men Supposed to Be Burglars Under the Eyes of the Police.**

The police think they have spotted the safe blowers or at least a part of them. Three very suspicious men were observed Thursday night and their actions closely watched by several of the force. They were white men and soon discovered that they were being watched. This discovery probably has caused them to leave town or seek some place of hiding, as the men were not seen yesterday. The police declined to give any details concerning the matter, fearing it would interfere with their detection and arrest. However, they are on the alert and if the same men reappear and give the slightest evidence of being crooks they may get into trouble.

## THE Y. M. C. A. CONVENTION.

**Preparations for the Annual Meeting in Richmond.**

The sixteenth annual convention of the Young Men's Association of Virginia will be held in Richmond, February 11-14.

Evangelist Williams, of Atlanta, Ga.; W. E. Colley, of Bridgeport, Conn.; W. Woods White, of Atlanta, Ga.; Theo. A. Harding, of Washington, D. C., representative business men; General Secretary W. H. Morris, of Baltimore, Md.; State Secretary L. A. Coulter, of Charlotte, N. C., and C. K. Ober, secretary of the international committee, have all consented to be present and assist. Several other leading association workers have also been invited. Reduced rates on all the railroads and free entertainment will be provided for all delegates.

A large male chorus, under the direction of Mr. H. F. Smith, of Richmond, will lead the singing. An effort is being made to secure the attendance of four hundred delegates. Representation is not limited, and towns having no association are invited to send delegates.

## HELPLESS CRIPPLES BURNED.

**A Horrible Holocaust in Indianapolis.**

The National Surgical Institute Burned to the Ground—Nineteen Bodies Taken From the Ruins—Distressing Scenes at the Fire—Heroic Efforts to Rescue the Helpless Victims of the Flames. Erskine College, in South Carolina, Destroyed by Fire.

INDIANAPOLIS, Jan. 22.—[Special]—One of the most appalling fires in the history of Indianapolis occurred last night. The National Surgical Institute was burned to the ground.

The fire started at midnight in the office. The building above the offices were wards for babes and mothers, known as the A B C departments. Smoke was discovered before midnight issuing from the advertising room of the building, which immediately adjoins the operating room, back of the office. The origin is claimed to have been from spontaneous combustion of chemicals which had been placed in the room. Circulars and paper about the room soon were ablaze, and in fifteen minutes the whole lower floor was enveloped in flames.

The attendants quickly awakened all the patients and pandemonium reigned. Shrieks for help went up as the inmates realized their terrible situation, and the stoutest hearts were appalled. The police and firemen and attendants all worked diligently and in perfect accord, and many patients were taken from the upper floors by means of ladders and carried to a place of safety. No attempt was made to save anything but life. Patients, both male and female, themselves under ordinary circumstances barely able to get about, assisted nobly in the work of rescue.

The view in the halls and on the stairways before the fire had communicated to the main building furnished a weird sight. The inmates wrapped in bed clothing crawled and helped themselves along from one floor and one landing to another. Many touching scenes occurred, such as friends stopping to assist others more unfortunate. Citizens turned into help in the work of rescue. Cots were rudely constructed from mattresses, and strong armed policemen picked up the unfortunate ones and carried them across the street to the new annex but recently purchased by Doctors Allen and Wilson.

An immense crowd gathered about and great anxiety was felt, for it seemed improbable that everybody could have gotten out of the burning mass alive, and their fears were justified by the events. Two women jumped from the windows. One of these was badly injured, but another, who was caught by a man standing in the crowd below, escaped serious injury. Two others threw out their babies, which were caught and saved by the firemen. One or two men jumped from the roof and were badly hurt.

Many rescued people were taken to the nearest shelter. Two large restaurants soon had five or six hundred inmates, among whom the scenes were indescribably pitiful. A majority of the patients in the hospital were children under treatment for deformities or diseases which rendered them helpless. A very large number had been more or less burned in addition to their former misfortunes, and had become separated from their mothers or nurses. Among these occurred the most pitiful and touching scenes.

Griffith's restaurant held the greatest number of sufferers, it is hardly possible to tell how many, owing to the confusion in the place totally unadapted to the use to which it was put in the emergency, but 300 or 400 hundred. Seventy or eighty more were found sheltered in the Weddell house restaurant.

Nineteen bodies so far have been taken from the ruins.

## ERSKINE COLLEGE DESTROYED.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Jan. 22.—[Special]—Erskine College, located at Due West, Abbeville county, S. C., was burned this morning, only a few benches, desks and blackboards being saved from the wreck.

The library, containing over 2,000 volumes, belonging to the Theological Seminary of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, was destroyed, together with the college library and furniture. The loss is over \$25,000 and no insurance.

The halls of the literary societies, exhibition hall and chapel, three separate buildings and the college campus were not injured, and the exercise of the college will be resumed without delay. Erskine College celebrated its semi-centennial two years ago, and is now one of the oldest and best schools in the South. It is under the control of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church. The origin of the fire is unknown.

## THE DEBT SETTLEMENT

**Causes a Lively Discussion in the House.**

RICHMOND, Jan. 22.—[Special]—The senate and house finance committees met in joint session this morning, Senator Berry presiding, and adopted resolutions ratifying the debt settlement as proposed in the Governor's message transmitting the report of the debt commission and providing that a proper bill shall follow.

The resolutions were reported to the senate, and, under a suspension of the rules, were adopted by a unanimous recorded vote, the one Republican voting with the Democrats.

The action of the senate was reported to the house by a message bringing the resolutions as agreed to. Speaker Caldwell called Mr. Ryan to the chair and moved that the rules be suspended and the resolution agreed to. Mr. Kent, of Wythe, opposed them, claiming that the settlement was for \$25,000,000 under the guise of \$19,000,000.

Mr. Caldwell in an able speech briefly reviewed the work of the commission and pointed to Virginia as she would look were her legislators to refuse to ratify the settlement.

Mr. Litcher, of Rockbridge, opposed the adoption of the resolution, as did Mr. Saunders, of Franklin. Mr. Gibson, of Culpeper, and Mr. Hudding, of Caroline, supported the resolutions. After a long discussion Mr. McIlwaine called the pending question, which was ordered by a recorded vote of 54 to 34. Pending a motion to reconsider this vote the house adjourned.

The resolution will come up as unfinished business to-morrow and cannot fall of adoption.

The coterie opposed to accepting the proffered settlement is not well fortified. It is thought that many who voted in the negative to-day and some of the opposing speakers will eventually favor the settlement. At any rate it cannot be defeated.

A sub-committee of two from the senate and three from the house finance committee will be appointed to prepare a suitable bill carrying out the terms of the plan of settlement as agreed upon.

The new charter for Roanoke was introduced to-day.

## THE DEMOCRATIC CALL.

**Chairman Brice Issues the Official Call to the Democratic Hosts.**

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22.—[Special]—The National Democratic Committee to-day issued the following call:

"The National Democratic Committee, at a meeting held this day in the city of Washington, D. C., has appointed Tuesday, the 31st day of June, 1892, as the time, and chosen the city of Chicago as the place, for holding the National Democratic Convention.

"Each State is entitled to representation therein equal to double the number of representation to which it is entitled in the next electoral college, and each Territory and the District of Columbia shall have two delegates. All Democratic conservative citizens of the United States, irrespective of past political associations and differences who can unite with us in an effort for pure, economical and constitutional government, are cordially invited to join us in sending delegates to the convention.

"CALVIN S. BRICE, Chairman.  
"SIMON P. SHERKIN, Secretary.  
"January 21, 1892."

## DEATH OF JUSTICE BRADLEY.

**Of the United States Supreme Court.**

He Passed Away Yesterday Morning at 6:15, in the Seventy-ninth Year of His Age, After a Brief Illness—To be Buried Sunday at His Old Home in New Jersey—The Supreme Court Adjourns Upon the Announcement of His Death.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22.—[Special]—Justice Bradley, of the United States Supreme Court, died at 6:15 this morning.

Private services will be held at his late residence Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock, after which his remains will be taken to his home at Newark, N. J., and interred in the family burying ground Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock.

At a late hour last night his physicians gave up all hope of his recovery, and announced at the furthest they considered that he had but a few hours longer to live.

The venerable jurist had been in ill health for several months past, and the dawn of the new year found him a very feeble man, confined to his bed.

His malady did not consist of any specific ailment, but it was a general breaking down of his entire system, once so robust and active. Day after day he grew weaker, and the best efforts of his physicians failed to retard the approaching dissolution which had gradually but relentlessly set in. The most tempting nourishments had no taste in them for him.

On Monday last he grew alarmingly worse, and it was thought that the end was at hand. In addition to his attending physician, Dr. W. W. Johnston, Drs. Bussey and Deale were called in, and all of them have kept watch at his bedside since. Nevertheless, he had been gradually sinking, but evidently not suffering any great pain, as he had slept quietly. Though conscious when aroused, he was so very feeble that he talked but little, and took no notice of those about him. He was devotedly attended by his aged wife, two daughters and son.

Justice Bradley lacks not quite two months of being 79 years of age, and has been on the Supreme Court bench since March, 1870, having been appointed by President Grant.

The Supreme Court to-day adjourned, after the announcement of the death of the Justice, without transacting any business.

## VIRGINIA COURT OF APPEALS.

RICHMOND, Va., Jan. 22.—In the Virginia court of appeals opinions were handed down to-day in the following cases: Hill against the commonwealth, from the county court of Fauquier county; affirmed, Judge Lewis delivering opinion. Roller against Ellinger, from the circuit court of Rockingham county; affirmed, Judge Lacy delivering opinion. Judge Fauntleroy dissenting. Roanoke Gas Company against the city of Roanoke; affirmed, Judge Richardson delivering the opinion. Walters and others against Walters and others; appeal allowed to a decree of the circuit court of Wythe county, pronounced at September term of 1891. Commonwealth against Ballentine, and two other cases, and Norfolk and Western Railroad Company against Nunnally; petitions to rehear filed. Chalkley against the city of Richmond; petition to rehear denied. Richardson against Farrar; argued by Judge W. R. Stapleton for plaintiff and W. W. Henry for defendant, and submitted. Isaac Taylor and Williams against the city of Richmond, Justice against the city of Petersburg, and Rison against Moon; passed to March term. Veigh against Rady; continued.

## BURNED AT SEA.

**The Fate of a Vessel Supposed to be an American Steamer Laden With Oil.**  
NEW YORK, Jan. 22.—[Special]—A cablegram from London says: "The steamer Egyptian, which arrived this morning, reports passing, January 16th in latitude 48 longitude 19, a vessel enveloped in flames supposed to be an American ship loaded with petroleum."

At the office of the shipping agents of the Standard Oil Company a number of oil laden vessels are on the ocean from this port. The steamer Alleghany left this port January 1st, for Marseilles with 1,250,000 gallons of crude oil. She would be about in the locality reported on date mentioned. She carried a crew of thirty-five men. Tank steamer Wilkmon left January 6th. She had a crew of thirty-eight men. The oil laden steamer Bear Creek left Philadelphia for London January 6th.

**Railroad Shops Burned.**  
NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 22.—[Special]—Fire destroyed the roundhouse and machine shop and contents of the New Orleans and Southern railroad, formerly the Shell Beach, situated on the Poydras plantation, in St. Bernard Parish, twelve miles below this city. The loss is estimated at \$60,000, partly insured.

**The Strike Ended.**  
SAN ANTONIO, Tex., Jan. 22.—[Special]—Chairman Miller, of the federation board at Yoakum, has formally declared the San Antonio and Aransas Pass strike at an end, and there is now no obstacle anywhere to freight and passenger traffic.

**Mrs. Davis Accepts an Honor.**  
NEW YORK, Jan. 22.—[Special]—Mrs. Jefferson Davis, who was elected honorary vice-president of the United States Daughters of 1812, has accepted the honor and has been enrolled as a member.

**The Weather.**  
Forecast: For Virginia generally fair east; light rain west; warmer west winds.